

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 295792 TOSEC 240266

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ADDIS ABABA ALGIERS
CONAKRY KINSHASA LAGOS LIBREVILLE LISBON LONDON LUSAKA MOSCOW
USUN NEW YORK PARIS USLO PEKING PRETORIA YAOUNDE BANJUL FROM DAKAR
DTD 16 DEC 1975 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 7106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, US

SUBJ: PRESIDENT SENGHOR VOICES CONCERN OVER SOVIET MENACE
IN ANGOLA AND ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA

REF: A. STATE 294641; B. STATE 293841; C. STATE 293840; D. STATE
294635

SUMMARY PRESIDENT SENGHOR URGES CONTINUED US HELP FOR ANTI-
MPLA FORCES UNTIL SOVIETS AND CUBANS CAN BE FORCED OUT OF
ANGOLA. MOST AFRICAN LEADERS WITH WHOM HE HAS TALKED RECENTLY
SEE SOVIET-CUBAN ROLE AS GREATER DANGER THAN SOUTH AFRICAN
INVOLVEMENT. UNITA LEADER SAVIMBI WILL BE IN DAKAR DEC. 19.
SENGHOR EXPECTS OAU SUMMIT JANUARY 10-12 AND HOPES FOR
RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ALL EXTERNAL INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA.
AT SUMMIT SENGHOR WILL STRESS SOVIET MENACE TO AFRICA;
HE SAID HE FEARS ALGERIA AND NIGERIA ARE, WITH SOVIET SUPPORT,
BECOMING AFRICAN IMPERIALISTS. SENGHOR HOPES TO WORK CLOSELY
WITH US IN NEWYORK ON ANGOLA ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

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2. DURING HALF-HOUR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DEC. 15, PRESIDENT SENGHOR PRAISED U.S. POLICY ON ANGOLA AND URGED AMERICANS TO MAINTAIN CLEAR BUT FIRM POSITION IF WE DID NOT WISH TO SEE SOVIET STAMPEDE IN AFRICA. ALL AFRICAN LEADERS HE HAD TALKED WITH RECENTLY, EXCEPT MARIEN NGOUABI OF CONGO, SAW SOVIET AND CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AS GREATER DANGER THAN PARTICIPATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY. WHEN SENGHOR TOLD NGOUABI AFRICAN SOLUTION TO ANGOLAN PROBLEM WAS RIGHT ONE, CONGELESE LEADER INQUIRED WHETHER SITUATION MAY NOT ALREADY HAVE BECOME INTERNATIONALIZED BEYOND RECOVERY. (EMBASSY NOTE: SENGHOR DISCUSSED ANGOLA IN LATE NOV. WITH PRESIDENTS OF ZAIRE, GABON, CAMEROON AND CONGO; DAKAR 6847).

3. SENGHOR SAID ULTIMATE SOLUTION TO ANGOLAN PROBLEM COULD COME THROUGH OAU BUT OAU COULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE IN FINDING AFRICAN SOLUTION UNLESS SUPER POWERS WITHDREW THEIR FORCES. UNTIL SOVIETS AND CUBANS WITHDRAW, US MUST CONTINUE TO HELP ANTI-MPLA FORCES, SENGHOR SAID. SENGHOR HAD REPORTS FROM HIS AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW THAT CAPTURED SOVIET TROOPS IN ANGOLA WERE COMMITTING SUICIDE BY POISON. SENEGALESE PRESIDENT HAD IMPRESSION FROM SOVIET AMBASSADOR THAT ANGOLAN ADVENTURE WAS NOT POPULAR ONE AND THAT USSR WOULD NOT RULE OUT HONORABLE RETREAT IF THIS COULD BE ARRANGED. SENGHOR FELT ANGOLA SHOULD BE HIGH ON AGENDA US-SOVIET TALKS. IN HIS VIEW CHINESE WERE SATISFIED TO SEE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN "SUPER SHITES," FROM WHICH THEY STOOD TO BENEFIT.

4. PRESIDENT SENGHOR INDICATED UNITA LEADER JULIUS SAVIMBI IS DUE IN DAKAR DECEMBER 19, PRESUMABLY ENROUTE TO UN WHERE HE HOPES TO DENOUNCE SOVIET AND CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AND OPEN DEBATE ON CRISIS. WHILE US HAD FOUND SENEGALESE AMBASSADOR TO UN FALL OVER-ACTIVE ON QUESTIONS WHERE WE DISAGREE, HE COULD BE EFFECTIVE AND ACTIVE ON ANGOLAN SITUATION. SENGHOR HOPED WE WOULD WORK CLOSELY ON ANGOLAN PROBLEM.

5. SENGHOR SAID HE NOW SAW OAU SUMMIT FOR JANUARY 10 OR 12, PRECEDED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. DATE OF DECEMBER 22 HAD BEEN ADVANCED FOR SUMMIT BUT HE SAID HOLIDAY SEASON WOULD BE AS DIFFICULT FOR NON-MOSLEM LEADERS AS ISLAMIC

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HOLIDAY WOULD BE FOR MOSLEMS. HE WOULD HOPE MINISTERS COULD PRESENT SUMMIT WITH RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ALL EXTERNAL INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA CONFLICT AND THAT ALL FOREIGN TROOPS AND TECHNICIANS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN. WITH ONLY 14 OF THE 46 OAU COUNTRIES HAVING RECOGNIZED MPLA, HE FELT SUCH A RESOLUTION WOULD CARRY. HE FELT SUCH A POSITION WOULD BE ADVANCED BY MODERATE AFRICAN STATES. IN ANY CASE, SENEGAL WOULD MAINTAIN ITS POSITION OF NOT SUPPORTING SECESSIONIST

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

6. SENGHOR SAID THAT HE WOULD PRESS ISSUE OF SOVIET MENACE WITH FELLOW CHIEFS OF STATE IN ADDIS ABABA. SENGHOR SAID HE FEARED ALGERIA AND NIGERIA WERE BECOMING AFRICAN IMPERIALISTS AND BOTH FUNCTIONED WITH SOVIET SUPPORT. PARTICULARLY IN SPANISH SAHARA SITUATION, US SHOULD WATCH DEVELOPMENTS CAREFULLY. COMMUNISTS WERE BEHIND ALGERIANS AND LATTER WOULD CONTINUE TO ARM AND PUSH POLISARIO FORCES.

7. AMBASSADOR THANKED SENGHOR FOR HIS FRANK COMMENTS WHICH USG WOULD APPRECIATE. HE REITERATED US POLICIES ON ANGOLA AND SPANISH SAHARA AS PER REFTEL AND INDINATED THAT WE HAD BEEN IN DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR FALL IN NEW YORK. WE WERE KEEPING GOS INFORMED OF TWHAT WE KNEW OF ANGOLA SITUATION THROUGH FREQUENT BRIEFINGS. WE APPRECIATED HIS INITIATIVES AND WOULD WISH TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD OBJECTIVES WE SHARED.

8. COMMENT: SENGHOR WAS CORDIAL AND IN GOOD HUMOR BUT CLEARLY PREOCCUPIED WITH ANGOLAN SITUATION. HE HAD SUMMONED AMBASSADOR TO U.S. COULBARY TO SEE HIM ON DEC. 14, ONE HOUR AFTER COLBARY LEFT PLANE FROM NEW YORK. COULBARY SAID SENGHOR HAD PRAISED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMARKS IN BRUSSELS ON ANGOLA, ALSO THAT SENEGALESE PRESIDENT HAD MOST APPRECIATED ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S BRIEFING IN KINSHASA.
AGGREY UNQTE INGERSOLL

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